availability to the tactile tedwtry throughout the season; and)

(b) if so, what are the details of purchases made by the Corporation during 1989 and so far during 1986 and to what extent the decline in cotton price in local market has been arrested as * result of the purchases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India has been directed to purchase cotton at support price* without any restric tion on quantity. The Corporation undertakes price support operation whenever the prices tend to fall below the minimum support prices- This cotton is sold to various seg ments of the textiles industry inclu ding the National Textile Corpora tion, State Textile Corporation, Khadi and Village Industries Commission etc.

(b) The Corporation purchased 15. 56 lakh bales in 1985-86 (September, 1965 to August, 1986) and 63, 396 bales during 1986-87 (from 1st Sept '86 to 6th November, 1986). The support price operations of Cotton Corporation of India are intended to prosure that the prices do not fall below the minimum support prices fixed by the Government.

Production of lowpriced blended cloth

•119. SHRI NARESH C PUGLIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a)" whether Government have, formulated any scheme for the production of low-priced Mended cloth in the handloom sector for implementation by the States;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what price has been fixed for such cloth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF *TEXTILES* (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The "Susman Cloth Scheme" envisages production of cheap polar-ester blended doth made from duty free polyester fibre. The guidelines issued by Government provide that the scheme will be implemented by the, State Handloom Apex Societies and State Handloom Development Corporations. The range of products will. include bleached and dyed polyester blened shirtings and suit ings which will he sold only through retail outlets operated directly by the approved implementing agencies.

(c) The maximum prices fixed for the products are Rs. 25/. per square metre for shirting and Rs. 40/ per square metre for suiting.

Bifurcation of FERA

*120. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Association of Chambers of Commerce and Indus-try have recently made certain suggestions to Government for the bifurcation of the contents of FERA;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have considered these suggestions; and if so, what decision has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ASSOCHAM has suggested bifurcation of the contents of FERA into two separate enactments. The